

April 19, 2021

Dear Community Members:

We continue efforts to get more residents vaccinated while combatting increases in cases and hospitalizations. Today, our average positivity rate is 5.09% and our new case rate is 19.26 per 100,000. Cases are predominantly among those not fully vaccinated with an average age of 31 years. Almost half of Howard County residents are vaccinated (49%), 88% of residents 65 and older have received at least one dose of vaccine and 99% of residents 75 and older have received at least one dose. Given the continued prevalence of cases within our community and until everyone is vaccinated, we must continue to be diligent by wearing facial coverings, physically distancing, avoiding large gatherings and getting tested when exposed or when symptoms develop.

Vaccine supply in Maryland is slowly increasing despite the pause of the J&J vaccine last week. The State has opened additional vaccine sites. You can register for vaccine at a variety of sites by using the State vaccine locator: <https://coronavirus.maryland.gov/pages/vaccine#locator>. This link will take you to the State's COVID vaccine finder page, where you are able to search for sites near you. If you do not have access to the internet or need assistance with technology, you can call the State hotline at 855 - MDGOVAX (1-855-634-6829). All residents 16 years and older are eligible. Many of these sites offer Pfizer vaccine which is the only vaccine authorized for 16 and 17-year old teens. Parents of teens are encouraged to seek out sites that offer this vaccine. Howard County Health Department does not have Pfizer this week.

This week, HCHD received 3900 doses of Moderna vaccine. We offer clinics for all eligible residents and targeted clinics for those vulnerable populations. Residents in all phases who are interested in receiving vaccine at HCHD are encouraged to complete our vaccine interest survey at <https://www.howardcountymd.gov/Departments/Health/MM-Alerts-and-Recalls/COVID-19-Vaccine>. Please note, when you complete the survey, you will not receive information to schedule an appointment until more vaccine is received and we are able to schedule additional clinics.

See below schedule of HCHD's clinics for this week. Several first dose clinics, second dose clinics, the Mobile Integrated Community Health (MICH) team, National Guard Team and MEMA Mobile Team will be operating. Appointments are required. Clinic registration links have been emailed to eligible preregistered individuals. Please do not share the appointment link.

Tuesday 4/20

HCHD Ascend One: 10 am – 4:30 pm: Second dose clinic for 65+

HCC: 5 pm – 6:30 pm: Second dose for COG

Celebration Church: 10 am – 2 pm: First dose for community members

North Laurel Community Center (NLCC): 8 am – 1 pm: First dose for all eligible

Wednesday 4/21

HCC: 10 am – 4:30 pm: Second dose for 65+



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Maura J. Rossman, M.D., Health Officer

North Laurel Community Center (NLCC): 8 am – 1 pm: First dose for all eligible
Homewood School: 11 am- 1 pm: First dose for all eligible

Thursday, 4/22

HCC: 10 am – 4:30pm: First dose for all eligible
WLIC: 4 pm – 7 pm: Second dose for members

Friday 4/23

HCHD Ascend One: 10 am – 1:30 pm: First dose for persons with disabilities
Oakland Mills Interfaith Center: 10 am – 2 pm: First dose for all eligible
North Laurel Community Center (NLCC): 8 am – 1 pm: First dose for all eligible

Saturday 4/24

Long Reach High School: 10 am – 3 pm: First dose for all eligible

Thank you,

Maura J. Rossman, MD
Howard County Health Officer